

JOHN FRANCILLON F.L.S.
FURTHER FACTS

By C. MACKECHNIE-JARVIS*

I have read with interest the note by my erstwhile correspondent Lt. Col. Cowan on John Francillon and as he does not name the prime source of his information, may I plead guilty?

The reference to John Francillon formed a small part of my Presidential Address to the British Entomological and Natural History Society and appeared in the Proceedings for 1976 but I believe I am the first person to refer in print to the fact that he was of Huguenot descent. I found very little concerning Francillon in the extensive archives of the Huguenot Society, of which I am a Fellow and so sought out a collateral descendant, Mr. John Francis Francillon, a solicitor, who lamentably died in July 1976 at the early age of 56.

Mr. Francillon very kindly sent me a copy of some family correspondence with relatives in Switzerland and an extensive pedigree, part of which I published, acknowledging the sources upon which I had drawn. John, the entomologist, is as Col. Cowan says "a name on a chart" without reference to his profession or interests but the date of death given thereon as 1818 is incorrect and I am in error in quoting it. From another source I had a note that our John was a goldsmith but as Dr. Hagen working prior to 1862 (commencement of the publication of his *Bibliotheca Entomologica*) and much closer to the events, described John Francillon as a doctor, I followed Hagen and again was wrong. I accept that John was not a Doctor and I have already acknowledged this in a Review of *Natural History Auctions* By J. M. Chalmers-Hunt which appeared in the *A. E. S. Bulletin* 1977 p.83.

Cowan refers to the 1780 H. A. C. reference as a "breakthrough" and speculates at length on possible reasons for Francillon's enlistment in October 1780. If, however, he resigned in 1780 his military career was of very short duration and hardly justifies the comment. 19th Century Wills are fully indexed and readily available for inspection at the Record Office in Chancery Lane with a delay seldom exceeding 15 minutes. The I.G.I. Records of Marriages and Christenings are on "open access" at the Guildhall Library and contain the information he gives concerning the children of the second marriage. Col. Cowan asks about John's first wife. The family papers name her as Mary Kilburn. Hers is just another "name on a chart" and I cannot vouch for it. No children of this marriage survived and I did not quote it.

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Finally, The dates given for Sydenham T. Edwards are not those in the D.N.B. and should be 1769 - 1819.

References

- Cowan, C. F. (1986) John Francillon, a few facts. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **98**: 139-143.
- Dictionary Of National Biography (1917) vol. VI p.544.
- Hagen, H. A. (1862) *Bibliotheca Entomologica*.
- MacKechnie-Jarvis, C. (1975) Presidential Address *Proc. Trans. Br. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.* **9**: 91-112.

EUPHRANTA TOXONEURA LW. (DIPT.: TEPHRITIDAE) IN WEST KENT. — On 7th June, 1986, on a piece of marshy ground on the Welling side of Shooters Hill opposite the eastern margin of Oxleas Wood, I swept an unfamiliar and distinctive-looking Tephritid fly from grass and mixed herbage under some willows (*Salix fragilis* L.). It proved, as I suspected, to be the above rarity, better known under the generic name *Rhacochlaena* (which however is now considered a subgenus of *Euphranta* — See White, I. M., 1986, *Ent.mon.Mag.* **122**:148). I have seen no previous record for W. Kent, nor indeed for Kent at all, but in the London district there is one for Hampstead Heath, Middx. (Niblett, M., 1956, *The Flies of the London Area*, **3**, Trypetidae: 83 — *London Naturalist* Reprint 101). This scarce and elusive insect has been associated in the past with willow trees, having sometimes been found sitting on the trunks, but the scattered British records are often uninformative and the foodplant was unknown until recently. However, in conversation with Dr. Ian White I learn that *E. toxoneura* has been shown to develop in the galls on willow leaves caused by sawflies of the genus *Pontania*, a fact that fully accounts for the situation of the present capture and others. — A. A. ALLEN.

GLAUCOPSYCHE MELANOPS (BOISD.) (LEP.: LYCAENIDAE) IN CORFU — Whilst on holiday in Kassiope, Northern Corfu, in late April 1986, I discovered a small colony of the black-eyed blue butterfly. The site was a ruined crusader fort on a limestone headland. The site was covered in flowers, and totally neglected, with the fort walls providing a good windbreak. One female was observed to lay a single egg on the abundant shrub *Spartium junceum* (also the foodplant of the local holly blue). Both Higgins and Hargreaves in *A field Guide to the Butterflies of Britain and Europe*, and Bretherton in *Trans. Soc. Br. Ent.* **17**: 1-9 describe this butterfly as a resident of western Europe, with the most easterly part of its range being northern Italy. J. A. D. SMITH, Leas View, Epsom Road, West Horsley, Surrey.